

In the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to FIGS. 10A-10C. This sheet replaces the original sheet of FIGS. 10A-10C.

Attachment: Replacement sheet

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the Abstract and the drawings without amending any claims.

The Abstract has been objected to because of an informality. Applicants have amended the Abstract to overcome this objection.

The Examiner requested that FIGS. 10A-10C be labeled as "Prior Art." Applicants have amended FIGS. 10A-10C accordingly.

Claim 6 has been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,234,031 (Suga). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 6 recites a sensor control circuit connected to the horizontal scanning circuit and the vertical scanning circuit, and states that the sensor control circuit is configured to receive a sensor actuation signal through the sensor actuation signal wire and configured to switch off the unit detection elements operational under the operation mode and to switch on the unit detection elements not operational under the standby mode in response to the sensor actuation signal. The Examiner equates Suga's first scanning circuit 115 to the claimed horizontal scanning circuit and Suga's second scanning circuit 116 to the claimed vertical scanning circuit. Applicants disagree with the Examiner, since Suga's first scanning circuit 115 that selects gate lines in fact corresponds to the claimed vertical scanning circuit and Suga's second scanning circuit 116 that selects data lines corresponds to the claimed horizontal scanning circuit.

The Examiner contends that Suga's detection circuit 112 corresponds to the claimed sensor control circuit. Applicants respectfully disagree. First, Suga's detection circuit 112 is not connected to the first scanning circuit 115, i.e., the vertical scanning circuit, as claimed. See, for example, FIG. 7 of Suga. Second, all Suga's detection circuit 112 does is "detecting the electrostatic capacities between the plurality of detection electrodes 103 arranged in a matrix and flexible electrode 106, converting results of the detection into electric signals and outputting the

electric signals as pattern of fingerprint.” See, column 10, lines 11-17, of Suga. Suga’s detection circuit 112 cannot and does not switch on and off the unit detection elements as claimed.

The rejection of claim 6 under 35 USC 102(b) on Suga should be withdrawn because Suga does not teach or suggest the claimed sensor control circuit.

Claims 7-10 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Suga in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,325,422 (Knapp). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 7 recites a sensor control circuit connected to the horizontal scanning circuit and the vertical scanning circuit and a switch disposed in the sensor area and configured to provide a sensor actuation signal to the sensor control circuit so that the unit detection elements not operational under the stand by mode are switched on so as to operate under the operation mode. The Examiner contends that Suga’s sensor circuit 112 corresponds to the claimed sensor control circuit, which is not proper because Suga’s sensor circuit 112 is not connected to the vertical scanning circuit, as explained above.

Furthermore, even though the Examiner states that Suga teaches the sensor of claim 7 except the teaching of the claimed sensor area, she does not point to any portion of Suga for a teaching of the claimed switch to provide a sensor actuation signal. Instead, the Examiner calls Knapp’s TFT 16 “a switching device” when she describes Knapp’s sensor area. The Examiner also seems to contend that Suga’s transistors 110 and 111 correspond to the claimed switch in her argument to reject claims 9 and 10.

None of the teachings cited by the Examiner discloses the claimed switch. Knapp’s TFT 16 is a switching TFT that connects electrodes 14 and data lines 20 and does not provide a sensor actuation signal to the sensor control circuit, as claimed. See, for example, column 7, lines 46-54, of Knapp. Suga’s transistors 110 have the same function as Knapp’s TFT 16, and transistors 111 are additional switches along the data lines 113. See, for example, column 10, lines 24-35, of Suga. Even though Suga’s transistors 110 and 111 supply signals corresponding to

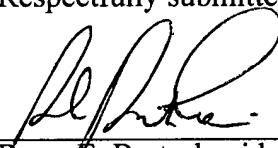
capacitances at individual unit detection elements to Suga's detection circuit 112, this detection circuit 112 cannot switch on the unit detection elements in response to the sensor actuation signal provided by the switch as claimed, as applicants have already explained above.

The rejection of claims 7-10 under 35 USC 103(a) over Suga and Knapp should be withdrawn because Suga and Knapp together do teach or suggest the claimed switch and sensor control circuit.

In light of the above, a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952**, referencing Docket No. 492322013700.

Respectfully submitted,



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